



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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GOT EQUINE?

In the fall of 2006, Virginia horse owners and managers will receive the "Virginia Equine Survey" from the USDA/NASS Virginia Field Office. The equine industry is an important part of Virginia agriculture. New information is needed to measure the growth of the industry and assess the size and economic impact of equine on Virginia's economy. The 2006 Virginia Equine Survey will contain questions relating to:

- Number of equine by breed
- Number of equine by primary use
- Number and value of equine sold
- Number of workers employed
- Costs incurred for labor
- Costs incurred for supplies, equipment, land, and buildings
- Geographic locality of equine

Whether you have one animal or a stable full, your contribution is essential. Results of this survey will be provided to anyone interested in Virginia's equine industry. Leaders and educators are depending on this survey to measure the contribution of equine to the Virginia economy and to the nation. Your response is entirely voluntary; however your cooperation is extremely important. Results will be used to determine future public policies addressing equine concerns. Please be assured that any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential as required by law and used only in combination with reports from other producers. Your individual information is confidential and protected by law (U.S. Code, Title 7). If you have questions about this survey, contact Jason Jones or Kevin Barnes at (800) 772-0670.

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